

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ROME 03025 161609Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 ACDA-12 TRSE-00 /086 W
-----045298 170546Z /10

R 161538Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 657
INFO CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN GE
USNMR SHAPE BE
CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 3025

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OCON, MILI, NATO, AWACS, IT
SUBJECT: NATO AWACS BRIEFING

REF: A. ROME 1425, B. STATE 012990

1. EMBASSY HAS NOT YET BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN AROUSING MUCH ACTIVE INTEREST IN THE NATO BRIEFING. BEGINNING AT THE WORKING LEVEL IN THE MOD WE HAVE STRESSED THAT BRIEFING IN NO WAY INCURS ANY OBLIGATION BUT WE BELIEVE THAT IN TERMS OF ALLIANCE POLITICS IT IS IMPORTANT THAT ITALY NOT BE ODD MAN OUT IN AS SIMPLE A MATTER AS THIS. THE TECHNICAL SIDE OF THE MOD IS GENERALLY RECEPTIVE TO BRIEFING BUT NOT WILLING TO COMMIT ITSELF TO AN INVITATION. AS A RESULT, WE HAVE NOW WORKED OUR WAY UP THROUGH THE OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF AND ARE IN CONTACT WITH OFFICE OF MINISTER WHERE IT NOW LIES.

2. DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF MAININI EXPRESSED MOST FRANKLY THE SURPRISING ITALIAN RESERVE THAT HAS EMERGED IN REGARD TO THIS BRIEFING. IT MIGHT BE INTERESTING, HE ADMITTED, TO THE TECHNICIANS. BUT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ROME 03025 161609Z

HE ADDED, AWACS IS PURELY A POLITICAL PROBLEM HERE. THERE IS NO FLEXIBILITY IN THE ITALIAN DEFENSE BUDGET, NO FLEXIBILITY IN THE INDIVIDUAL SERVICE PROMOTIONAL LAWS. IF ITALY IS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM, IT WILL NOT BE AS A RESULT OF TECHNICAL BRIEFINGS, BUT WILL FOLLOW A POLITICAL DECISION AT THE VERY TOP. HE AGREED THAT RESOLUTION OF THE AWACS PROBLEM WAS AN

IMPORTANT MEASURE OF ALLIED SOLIDARITY AND COHESION
AND THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT IN PRINCIPLE THAT ITALY
PARTICIPATE FULLY IN ALLIED PROGRAMS, BUT THOSE WERE,
HE SUGGESTED, POLITICAL ISSUES TO BE HANDLED AT THE
POLITICAL LEVEL OF THE GOVERNMENT.

3. ITALIAN RETICENCE NOTWITHSTANDING, WE HOPE TO
HAVE DURING WEEK OF FEB. 20 AN EXPRESSION OF
INTEREST AND A TIME SET FOR THE BRIEFING. GARDNER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AWACS, COMMUNITY RELATIONS, BRIEFING MATERIALS, WARNING SYSTEMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978ROME03025
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780073-0226
Format: TEL
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780246/aaaabnea.tel
Line Count: 71
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3b7447d5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 ROME 1425, 78 STATE 12990
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3571787
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NATO AWACS BRIEFING
TAGS: OCON, MILI, IT, NATO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3b7447d5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014